

# BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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## CONFERENCE

### Of Ashland District, M. E. Church South.

#### Interesting Meeting of Preachers and Delegates in Session at Louisa.

The Ashland District Conference of the M. E. Church South began its regular session in the Southern Methodist church, this city, on Tuesday morning. Conference was called to order by Presiding Elder O. F. Williams. After devotional exercises the secretary, the Rev. C. A. Slaughter, of Catlettsburg, proceeded to enroll the delegates:

**Names of Ministers.**  
Rev. O. F. Williams, Ashland; Rev. C. A. Slaughter, Catlettsburg; Rev. Hunter, Richmond, Va.; Rev. Politt, Cincinnati; Rev. Redd, Millersburg; Rev. Granberry and wife, Paintsville; Rev. Hobson, East Ashland; Rev. D. B. Kasee, Dwayne; Rev. F. E. Thornburg, Russell; Rev. R. F. Rice, Blaine; Rev. J. P. Richmond, Beaver creek; Rev. E. L. Yoak, Blaine; Rev. C. A. Goodwin, Van Lear; Rev. Bernard Spencer, Inez; Rev. I. N. Fannin, Pikeville; Rev. Wilkinson, Prestonsburg; Rev. W. L. Reid, Parkersburg; Rev. R. H. Casady, Fallsburg; Rev. A. A. Hollister, Rev. S. B. Odell, Grayson; Rev. C. M. Ball, Oakview; Rev. V. D. Harmon, Webbville; Rev. J. T. Moore and wife, Auxier; Rev. J. M. Hicks, Layneville; Rev. W. B. Ball, Greenup; Rev. Chas. Neff and wife, Buchanan; Rev. H. A. Spencer, Ashland; Rev. U. V. W. Darlington, Huntington; Rev. John Martin, Huntington.

**Delegates.**  
J. P. Crause, C. M. Ward, Dwayne; J. M. Ferguson, Ashland; R. J. Jarrell and wife, Inez; Mr. Carer, Miss Nettie Miller, Miss McMullen, South Portsmouth; Miss Anna Merrill, Miss Virginia Jones, Limeville; Miss Bernice Kimberley and Lola Chapman, Ashland; Mrs. John Ault and son, Grayson; Douglas Hamilton and W. B. Richmond and wife, Inez; Harrison Stewart, and A. J. Cooksey, Cadmus; A. R. Wakefield, Ashland; L. R. Giles, Jattie; C. M. Wells, Auxier; Chas. McGlothlin, Mavity; Mrs. Sutton and son, Russell; and Pam Mcraun, Catlettsburg.

At the conclusion of the business session of the morning the Rev. U. V. W. Darlington, pastor of the First M. E. Church South, Huntington preached a fine sermon. Regret was expressed that Mr. Darlington's stay in Louisa was necessarily very brief.

The afternoon of Tuesday was devoted to the Sunday school interest of the church, the subject being ably discussed by the delegates. At night a very large audience had the pleasure of listening to the Rev. A. A. Hollister, of Grayson, and W. J. Vaughan, of Louisa, who made interesting and instructive addresses concerning the work being done in Kentucky and elsewhere for the Sunday school cause.

Other interesting talks were made on this work by Dr. J. C. Granberry, H. A. Spencer and P. E. Thornburg.

On Wednesday morning, after the transaction of conference business the meeting listened to an eloquent sermon by the Rev. Mr. Politt, of Cincinnati. Mr. Politt was at one time a member of the Western Virginia Conference and will join it again this fall. Wednesday afternoon was devoted to the subject of missions, and at night an audience which tested the seating capacity of the church listened to a splendid address on China, by the Rev. Dr. C. F. Reid, Laymen's Missionary Secretary of the M. E. Church South. Dr. Reid's address was probably the best on his subject ever heard in this city. He went to that country 34 years ago, and remained 17 years as missionary and teacher. During that time he mastered the difficult language of the country, made himself acquainted with its early history and through the literature of the new Republic keeps in touch with its history of today. Many of the men who are now prominent in Chinese affairs were former pupils of Dr. Reid. Dr. Reid and his namesake, the Rev. W. L. Reid, Presiding Elder of the Parkersburg District, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Spencer, and both left on the midnight N. and W. train for Cincinnati, W. Va.

Dr. Reid went to China when the

chances for a missionary getting out alive were very remote. He does not tell in public of his worst personal experiences in that country, but his friends know that he ran the gauntlet of brickbats more than once. He has passed through showers of stones from which it seemed impossible to come out alive. He stuck to the work, however, until great things were accomplished. Naturally, the conversion of China from the oldest monarchy in the world to a republic has aroused Dr. Reid to a high pitch of enthusiasm. This may be better understood when it is known that several of his pupils are now holding some of the high official positions in the new republic.

Dr. Reid gave the most comprehensive view possible of China and the great possibilities open there to the Christian world. It was a remarkable missionary address and it is a pity that everybody can not hear it.

Dr. Reid came direct here from Nashville, Tenn., and left on the midnight train to address another meeting Thursday evening.

Thursday Rev. R. T. Webb, of Barboursville, preached. Mr. Webb is Educational Secretary of the Western Virginia Conference, vice President of Morris Harvey College and pastor of the Barboursville church. He is an able man and prominent in church work.

Dr. Redd, a former pastor of the Paintsville church, but who is now at Millersburg, Ky., was a conference visitor.

We regret that we are not in position to report in detail the fine sermon preached by Rev. Politt.

The women had their "say" on Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. J. C. Granberry was the chief speaker, and she made an excellent talk on "Young People's Work in Missions." Mrs. John Ault and Mrs. H. C. Sullivan spoke on the work in this district.

As the NEWS goes to press on Thursday afternoon it is impossible to say anything of the closing features of the conference. It has been a profitable and interesting session. The attendance of both lay and ministerial delegates was large, and the business was transacted in a business way.

acterizes the people of Louisa was most agreeably shown on this occasion, agreeably shown on this occasion, and delegates and visitors are hearty in voicing their appreciation of the welcome given to them.

## SURVEY BEGUN.

### U. S. Engineers Have Started Work of Making Soundings on Big Sandy.

The re-examination and sounding of the Big Sandy, as mentioned in this paper in a former issue began this week at or near Pikeville. On Tuesday evening a corps of engineers and assistants under the direction of Junior Engineer H. E. Frye, left Louisa Tuesday afternoon for Pikeville and will make surveys and soundings of the river from that point to Louisa before going elsewhere. Major Rand, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., and Mr. L. S. Johnson, Assistant Engineer in charge of the Big Sandy river, also went to Pikeville on a tour of inspection. They may cross the peninsula to Williamson and come down the Tug. The sounding and surveying corps will probably be out several weeks. Besides Mr. Frye, inspectors Nimmo, Daly and Joffe were in the party. The force was augmented by Jas. Hughes, Sam Johnson, Rowland Horjor, Gus Snyder, Nell Conley, Clyde Smith, Frank Crutcher, Forrest Sammons and Lacey Williamson. These go in the various capacities of chainmen, rodmen, sounders and so forth.

#### BACKSTAMPING OF MAIL.

"Back stamping" of all mail except registered and special delivery letters was ordered discontinued by the Postoffice Department. Postmaster General Burleson believes the time saved will expedite delivery, often as much as the time between two deliveries. A similar order some years ago was rescinded because of many complaints by business interests.

#### "THE TORCH OF HOPE."

On page 2 of this issue will be found a poem of unusual merit. Its diction is well high perfect, and its pathetic beauty and touching incident appeal to every heart. The author is Mr. Daniel E. O'Sullivan, chairman of the board of Prison Commissioners, an able and versatile writer.

## LOUISVILLE BOOSTERS

### Made a Trip Through the Big Sandy Valley Last Tuesday.

The long-expected and much-hailed train bringing the "Boosters" from the city of Louisville reached Louisa at 3:40 Tuesday afternoon, only a few minutes behind the scheduled time. A reception committee composed of representative Louisians was at the depot waiting when they began to detain each of the distinguished visitors and members of the reception committee made himself a sub-committee of one and welcomes were extended right and left. After a few minutes spent in handshaking and self-introduction the Boosters, between 150 and 200 in number formed in line of pairs and headed by a splendid band of the best talent in Louisville, marched to the public square, attended by a large crowd of people. After the rendering of an inspiring air by the band Mr. M. S. Burns, who had been assigned the pleasant duty by the Louisa committee at the citizen's meeting in Eldorado theater, made the speech of welcome. Mr. Burns is always "at home" in performing duties of this sort, and on this notable occasion "Richard" was certainly "himself."

He told the visitors that his welcome was not an act of mere formality, but that it came from the hearts of Kentuckians to Kentuckians. Then he told how glad we were to see their friends from the Falls City, and that our merchants would rather buy goods from a Kentuckian than from a Buckeye, but that the difference in freight rates was absolutely prohibitive and that he hoped these representatives of the commerce and trade of Louisville would try to have freight rates between Louisa and Louisville so adjusted that business relations between the two places could be begun and maintained.

The address of welcome was responded to by Chief Booster Charles D. Norton, a prominent Louisville business man. Mr. Norton spoke briefly and to the point, thanking Louisa for the warm welcome which he and his fellow Boosters had received.

Dr. Henry Tuley, the President of the Louisville Commercial Club, was then introduced. He made a capital speech, in which he referred to the trip in general and spoke of the pleasure it gave him and his brother Boosters to be in this beautiful city. He said he was surprised to learn of the great difference in freight rates from Cincinnati to Louisa and the rates from Louisville to the same place. Dr. Tuley is an agreeable speaker, is thoroughly "business," and his speech was warmly received. At its conclusion he said he would introduce the Head of the city of Louisville, and forthwith he brought W. O. Head, Mayor of the city of Louisville, to the front. Mr. Head voiced his gratification on being present, and told of the great satisfaction the Booster trip had afforded every one who had made it.

The Mayor spoke along the lines of good roads and good schools, and of the great development which this part of the State was undergoing. He wanted us to come to Louisville, socially as well as in the way of trade, saying that he would personally see to it that we would get the proper reception. After seeing and hearing the Chief Executive of the great City At The Falls one is not surprised that the metropolis of Kentucky is thriving and growing by leaps and bounds. At the conclusion of Mayor Head's remarks the Boosters and their new friends returned to the depot, where a few moments were spent in the exchange of good wishes and mutual regrets that the time for the stay in Louisa of the Boosters was so short. Soon the cry of "all aboard" was sounded, and amid the waving of handkerchiefs and calls to "come again" the train moved off, bound for Ashland and a trip over the Lexington division.

The Boosters' train was a superb one of five Pullman sleepers, a diner and two baggage cars. It left Louisville Monday night and went to Pikeville by breakfast time. It arrived home some time Wednesday night, the Boosters having made as they declared, the greatest trip in history. An engagement to go to Chattanooga was all that prevented Governor McCreary from being one of the party.

During their stay in Louisa many of the Boosters visited our stores and other places of business, the dry goods men, hardware, grocery and furniture men, and probably

others, calling on our business men in these various lines and becoming acquainted.

Souvenirs in great number and abundance were freely distributed, and the boys or girls who could not show a handful of them were few.

#### A FINE SERMON.

A very large audience assembled in the M. E. Church South on Monday night last, drawn there by the announcement that the Rev. Dr. McMurry, of Louisville, would preach. After devotional exercises Presiding Elder Williams announced that the expected visitor had been detained at home by business which could not be postponed. Elder Williams expressed his regret on account of the failure of the reverend doctor to appear, and said he had a brother present who had never failed him—the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, pastor of the Prestonsburg church. Mr. Wilkinson proved to be equal to the emergency. He preached concerning the character of St. Paul, and his discourse showed that the speaker had made a careful and comprehensive study of the great apostle to the Gentiles. The sermon was listened to with much attention.

#### ASSAULT ENDED IN MURDER.

As the result of being struck on the head, it is alleged, with a heavy stone in the hands of Gene Davis, former business associate, at Pritchard, this county, Saturday morning, Thomas Clark, a well known citizen of Westmoreland, lies at the point of death in a ward at the Huntington hospital at Huntington. An operation performed Saturday night by Dr. Pritchard relieved the pressure on the brain, but the fracture and concussion were so great that the victim died as a result. Davis has fled and has not been apprehended.—Ceredo Advance.

#### ASSISTANT ENGINEER.

Since the 13th of the present month it has been Assistant Engineer L. S. Johnson, the deserved promotion of this capable official having come on that date. Mr. Johnson's previous rank was Junior Engineer, and at such he has rendered much faithful and efficient service in connection with the improvement of this river. As engineer in charge of the Big Sandy and the Tug and Levisa forks he is strictly "onto his job."

## "OUR FRED."

### New Yorker Thanks Newspapers for Publishing Rev. Shannon's Sermon.

It is a long way from "devil" in the office of a country newspaper to prominence as a preacher in the largest city on the American continent, but the Rev. Frederick F. Shannon, Louisa born and bred, has traveled the road and reached the eminence. Read the following from the Brooklyn Eagle:

Will you allow me space to thank you for publishing in last Monday's Eagle the sermon of the Rev. Frederick F. Shannon? It is a notable production. I heard the sermon as it was delivered in the Madison Avenue Reformed Church a few Sunday evenings ago. I thought at the time that it was worthy of a much larger hearing, and I am glad it has received the same in the sermon pages of The Eagle. Mr. Shannon is already well known for his great ability as a preacher, though still a young man. He is destined to be one of the outstanding pulpits of the land. He is logical, forceful, luminous, and employs history, ancient and modern literature in a masterly fashion. His illustrations are united, and always to the point. But more than this, he is graciously and profoundly scriptural, bringing all of his thinking into the light of the Master. Being blessed, in addition to this, with a large humanheartedness, Mr. S. is the realization of the kind of preacher needed to-day. He is modern without being fantastic, and compelling without any attempt at coercion—a rare compound of the teacher and persuader of men.

#### DIED IN ASHLAND.

The infant son of John Short and wife, who formerly lived in this county, died of whooping cough in Ashland on Tuesday last and was brought to Louisa and taken Wednesday morning to Morgans creek for burial. The child was only two months old. Mrs. Short is a daughter of Chris Diamond.

## POSTMASTERS RESIGN.

### New Order Requiring Examination of Incumbents Doing Deadly Work.

Washington.—Wholesale resignations of fourth-class Postmasters will be the result of the new order requiring these Postmasters to take civil service examinations. The stream of resignations began to flow toward Washington to-day. Many thousands of these small officials prefer to throw up their jobs rather than undergo scholastic examinations with the orders, as they believe, altogether in favor of their Democratic competitors.

The examination of fourth-class Postmasters under the civil service law as directed by the President will be made by States. President Black of the Civil Service Commission said today that the commission has not the money with which to examine the applicants for these Postoffice positions simultaneously in all the States. The work of conducting examinations will consume several months. The commission estimates that examinations for about 40,000 offices will have to be held in Post-offices. Where the salary is less than \$180 a year no examination will be required, as Postoffice inspectors will be authorized to pick persons to fill these small offices.

Chairman Black of the Civil Service Commission authorized the statement today for the first time that he commission approves the President's order. As a matter of fact the plan of examination was prepared by the commission. After Postmaster General Burleson had suggested that the Taft order ought to be revoked and that there ought to be an examination for all fourth-class Postmasters the Civil Service Commission was asked to prepare a plan of procedure, and this it did.

#### IT WAS A GOOD SHOW.

In spite of the clouds which threatened, and of a slight shower in the early part of the day last Friday, a very large crowd of our country friends came in to attend the Sun Brothers Show. By ten o'clock the weather cleared, and when the doors of the Big Top were opened the people simply poured in until the tent was full, and at the close of the fine programme the show was voted one of the very best ever seen in Louisa. Every event was an excellent one, and there were very many of them. Every feature was clean, and each number was presented with a precision and finish seldom seen under a tent. The music was excellent, the attaches were courteous, and the much abused "concert" relieved that feature of much of its ill repute.

#### WORTHY OF NOTE.

Garnet, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. Charles See, of this city, has successfully passed the examination for a County Diploma, thereby making a record of which she and her friends well may be proud. The examination was held two weeks ago by the county examiners, and besides herself there were many others, some of whom failed, some retiring before the end of the ordeal. The applicants were examined as to their proficiency in the branches taught in the public schools, and the diploma entitles the winner to admission to the county high school without charge. The examinations are made under strict supervision, without the possibility of the applicant obtaining help from anyone. If the case of this child has a parallel the NEWS would like to know it.

#### FUNERAL SERMON.

The funeral of Mr. M. D. L. Burns, brother of Mr. R. T. Burns, of this city, will be preached at Mt. Zion church, Bear cove, on Sunday next at 11 a. m. All who may wish to attend from Louisa can conveniently do so by taking the 9:23 train and return in the evening.

The funeral will be preached by Rev. Brammer, of the Baptist church. Rev. H. B. Hewlett, of the M. E. Church South, has been invited to assist in the services.

#### RUMORED MARRIAGE.

Rumor has it that Mrs. Sarah E. Wheeler, former wife of Judge C. B. Wheeler, and Wm. Fultz, a well known conductor on the Sandy Valley division of the C. and O. railway, were recently married at Pikeville or Paintsville.—Independent.

#### EXAMINATION FOR C. R. E.

For the benefit of those who wish to qualify for County Road Engineer an examination will be held in the office of the Commissioner of Public Roads, at Frankfort, on Wednesday, May 28th, examination beginning at 8:30 o'clock. The applicants for the position of County Road Engineer will be examined on the following subjects: Theory and practice of road building; Drainage; Grades; Earth computations; Use and care of road machinery; Maintenance of earth and macadam roads; and upon such other subjects relating to road problems as the Commissioner of Public Roads may deem to be of vital importance.

The examination will be written, and when the papers are graded, certificates will be issued to those successfully passing, which will entitle the holder to be considered by the County Judge as eligible for the appointment so far as his educational qualifications are concerned, but the County Judge will be responsible for determining the length of the services of his appointee and as to his general qualifications.

#### M. E. DIST. CONFERENCE.

The Ashland District Conference of the M. E. Church will be held in Louisa June 23-4 and 5. It will be presided over by the Rev. Dr. J. B. McClay, District Superintendent, and will partake largely of the nature of a ministerial institute. The programme has not yet been completed, but some very interesting features are promised. Not the least of these special attractions will be the presence and active participation of Bishop W. F. Anderson, of Cincinnati, one of the prominent men of the church and country.

#### NOTED FEUD JUDGE DEAD.

New York, May 16.—A special dispatch just received from Lake George states that Judge Charles M. Parsons, famous for many years as a feud judge in Pike county, Ky., died after a prolonged illness at his home at Caldwell, at the foot of Lake George, this State, Wednesday night. He was born in Virginia but spent the greater part of his life as judge of Pike county, Kentucky. Nine years ago he removed to this city and practiced law till ill health forced him to retire last year. He was 66 years old.

## COUNTY FAIR.

### Call for Meeting of Citizens on Saturday, May 24th.

The citizens of Lawrence county, and especially the farmers, are called to meet in Louisa on Saturday, May 24, at 1 p. m., to consider the matter of holding a County Fair, and to fix the date for the same. The NEWS considers this a very important matter. That a properly conducted fair produces much benefit to a county is beyond question, and if one is to be held in Lawrence this year it is time that the work of preparation begins at once. Let there be a big meeting Saturday.

#### MENINGITIS FATAL.

Joseph Pierce, aged 18 years, whose home was Williamson, W. Va., died Monday at Greenup, where he was employed putting in gas mains, his death being due to cerebro meningitis, with which he was stricken last Thursday.

Owing to the nature of the disease from which he died, interment occurred at Greenup Monday evening.

#### A Request To Correspondents.

Please do not in any way fasten the sheets of your letters together. Write upon one side of your paper, number the pages—not the items—and fold neatly. In every instance sign your true name. It will not appear with your letter. A failure to observe this regulation will help to fill the waste basket.

#### SOBERLY AFFLICTED.

The sorely afflicted family of Mr. Richard Skaggs, of this place, having again suffered the loss of a son by death want the people of Louisa and their old home near Terraville to know that while they mourn they are comforted when they remember the great kindness of their friends here and elsewhere. All that was done for their affliction is appreciated.

